

JUL 03 2006

Docket No. 020425

Serial No. 10/792,162

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25 were pending in the application prior to this response. In this response, applicant amends claims 1, 3, 7, 17, 20, and 21 to follow the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 10, 19, and 22-25 have been canceled, and new claim 26 has been added. The Examiner indicated that claim 7 was allowable, and applicant respectfully submits the remaining claims (1-6, and 8-25) (as amended) for examination and allowance.

In addition to the claim amendments, the specification has been amended, as discussed below.

No new matter has been added; support for the amendments and the new claim is found throughout the application.

Summary of amendments to specification

Amendments to the specification have been made to correct clerical and obvious errors and omissions. Particularly, paragraph 1041 was amended to add a period at the end of the sentence, paragraph 1052 was amended to correct grammatical errors. No new matter has been added; support for the amendments is found throughout the application.

Allowable subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowance of claim 7.

The Examiner indicated that claims 3, 10, and 19 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, applicant has amended the claims as follows to includes this allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10, which was therefore canceled. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims dependent thereon are allowable.

Claim 3 was amended to include the limitations of original claim 1 from which it depended, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 16 was amended to include the limitations of claim 19. Accordingly, applicant requests allowance of claim 16 and its dependent claims 17 and 18.

Claim 20 has been amended to include limitations corresponding to the limitations of allowable claim 7. Accordingly, applicant requests allowance of claim 20.

Claim 21 has been amended to include limitations corresponding to the limitations of allowable claim 7. Accordingly, applicant requests allowance of claim 21 and its dependent claims 22 and 23.

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Claim 26 has been added. Claim 26 is a "means-plus-function" claim that follows the allowable method claim 7, and therefore claim 26 is allowable.

Rejections Under §103

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 8, 11-18, and 20-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Durrant et al. (US 2002/0155838 A1) in view of Reed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,707).

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Durrant et al. (US 2002/0155838 A1) in view of Reed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,707) and in further view of Robert (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,497).

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Durrant et al. (US 2002/0155838 A1) in view of Reed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,707) and in further view of Suprunov (US 2002/0005804 A1).

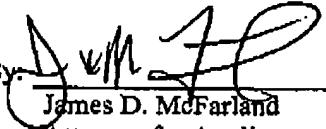
Applicant has amended all claims to follow the Examiner's indication of patentable subject matter, and therefore these rejections have been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Applicants believe that a complete response has been made to the outstanding office action. If the examiner believes that a personal communication would be useful to resolve any outstanding issues, the examiner is invited to call the attorney at the telephone number below.

In the event that additional fees are required or credit is due, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Acct. No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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